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## European Union

### Trade Policy Monitoring

## EU Fruit & Vegetables Regime - Simplified Rules 2004

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**Report Highlights:**

Following a 2001 European Commission report on the EU's Common Market Organization for fruits and vegetables and further discussions under the Spanish Presidency in 2002, the Commission launched a work program in 2003 that focused on simplifying and further clarifying the regulations.

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Includes PSD Changes: No  
Includes Trade Matrix: No  
Unscheduled Report  
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[E2]

## EU Fruit & Vegetables Regime – Simplified Rules

Following a 2001 European Commission report on the EU's Common Market Organization for fruits and vegetables and further discussions under the Spanish Presidency in 2002, the Commission launched a work program in 2003 that focused on simplifying and further clarifying the regulations.

**Commission Regulation 1432/2003** concerns the recognition of producer organizations (POs) and recognition of producer groups. This regulation lays down detailed rules regarding categories and minimum size of POs, minimum length of membership, structures and activities of POs, transnational POs, mergers of POs, preliminary recognition of producer groups, and check and penalties. The new regulation replaces regulations 412/97 and 478/97 with one single text.

**Commission Regulation 1433/2003** concerns operational funds, operational programs and financial assistance. This regulation lays down detailed rules for POs who want to transfer the implementation of actions in their operation program to a recognized association of POs, defines the method for calculating the value of marketed production of a PO, provides rules for the management and financing of operational funds, the submission, verification, approval and amendments of operational programs, control procedures and establishes lists of authorized and illegible PO operations and expenditures. The new regulation repeals regulation 609/2001.

**Commission Regulation 103/2004** concerns intervention arrangements and market withdrawals. This regulation lays down detailed rules for payments of Community withdrawal compensation and withdrawals financed from operational funds, the free distribution of withdrawn products to charitable organizations and certain establishments and institutions within and outside the EU, the distillation into alcohol and processing for non-food uses, environmental management, and checks and penalties. The new regulation repeals regulations 659/97 and 1492/97.

The regulations can be downloaded from the Internet at <http://europa.eu.int/eur-lex/en/oj/index.html>.

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